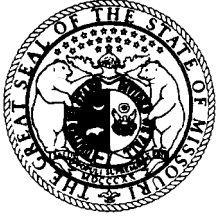


## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966  
E-mail: mosema@mail.state.mo.us



### Situation Report

Severe Storms –December 17-19, 2002

December 19, 2002

During the period of December 17-19, 2002, a slow moving front passed over Missouri with heavily laden moist air being pushed up from the Gulf of Mexico. The inordinate higher temperatures made for the potential for damaging storm cells to be formed. The cold front as it moved through Missouri developed a line of storms stretching from Southwest to Northeast Missouri with high winds, heavy rains and large storm cells transitioning along the front as it moved eastward. The front remains positioned over the Southeast quarter of the state. Missouri citizens experienced tornadoes, thunderstorms, high winds, hail and large amounts of rain in scattered areas.

### **County/City Reports:**

#### **Barton County:**

Five serious injuries and one fatality have been confirmed by Sheriff's Office  
Five homes along the Jasper/Barton County line destroyed and one was damaged  
One mobile home destroyed (which was the fatality)

#### **Hickory County:**

Power lines were down and trees were blocking roads on State and County Highways. Three farm buildings were destroyed along with three residences. One minor injury to a resident. All property owners have insurance.

#### **Lawrence County:**

Primarily damage was in and around the City of Chesapeake, Missouri:  
One fatality (confirmed) 15-17 injuries with three in serious condition.  
One or two isolated homes were damaged/destroyed  
Fourteen mobile homes destroyed and eight were damaged, primarily in the Lucky Lady Mobile Home Court  
American Red Cross is still on the scene and Americorps Volunteers have been dispatched to area to aid in the clean-up.

#### **Polk County:**

Primarily damage was in Humansville, Missouri:  
Two single family dwellings destroyed, two mobile homes destroyed.  
Two single family residences with major damage and seven with minor damage.  
One school bus was completely destroyed  
Farmers have reported a lot of lost farm equipment as well as eight barns and one grain silo destroyed.  
Five families were without shelter and American Red Cross placed them in hotel for two days.  
Looking at long term needs – Polk County Emergency Management have not made any requests for assistance.

**Vernon County:**

Minor damage to trees in Nevada, Missouri.

Minor damages to vehicles, windshields broken and some hail damage.

No requests for assistance.

**Forecast:**

The National Weather Service has indicated that the front (and associated storms) will pass out of Missouri today and are no longer a serious threat to Missourians. Some areas may experience locally heavy rain until the system exits the state. The next weather system is expected to arrive on Saturday , December 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Actions Taken:**

The State Emergency Management Agency dispatched survey teams to the hardest hit areas and SEMA collected damage reports from City & County emergency management as well as SEMA Area Coordinators.

SEMA Volunteer Coordinator, Dante Gliniecki arrived in the Southwest Missouri Area to assist American Red Cross and Salvation Army activities. He requested that Americorps Volunteers be dispatched to assist in the clean-up. Disaster Mitigation Branch Chief completed preliminary damage assessments with local officials in Lawrence County (See above County Report). Other reports were collated and can be viewed in the above section.

The assessment of the affected counties does not meet criteria for any requests for declaration to include Small Business Administration. The volunteer organizations are assisting with financial and other victims needs. We are not aware of any needs not being met.

This Situation Report concludes this phase of the response, no further reports will be made unless warranted by changes. Agencies requiring special briefings may contact the SEMA Public Information Office at 573/526-9136.

**Points of Contact:** SEMA Emergency Operations Center phone number is 573/526-9100 or 573/751-2748.